

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VALLET 00891 081509 Z

51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 NSC-10 RSR-01 RSC-01 /053 W

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R 081204 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4279

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L VALLETTA 0891

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, CA, MT

SUBJECT: REQUEST BY MINTOFF TO VISIT WASHINGTON

REF: STATE 08515

1. PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARY TELEPHONED AMBASSADOR MAY 8 TO STATE THAT MINTOFF, CONTEMPLATING REPLY TO SECRETARY'S MESSAGE TRANSMITTING ANNUAL FOREIGN POLICY REPORT, WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO VISIT WASHINGTON EITHER BEFORE OR AFTER HIS TRIP TO OTTAWA FOR COMMONWEALTH PRIME MINISTERS MEETING IN AUGUST. CAMILLERI SAID MINTOFF WOULD LIKE TO TALK WITH PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY. IN ACCORDANCE REFTEL INSTRUCTION, AMBASSADOR MERELY SAID HE WOULD REPORT REQUEST BUT POINTED OUT PROBLEM OF PRESIDENT'S TIGHT SCHEDULE.

2. WHILE WE WOULD NOT URGE MEETING WITH PRESIDENT, IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY HELPFUL FOR U. S.- MALTESE RELATIONS IF SECRETARY COULD FIND AN HOUR FOR PRIME MINISTER. AS REPORTED IN PAST, MINTOFF OVER PAST YEAR HAS RAISED POSSIBILITY OF WASHINGTON VISIT SEVERAL TIMES AND WE THINK THAT AT SOME POINT HE SHOULD AT LEAST BE GIVEN BRIEF OPPORTUNITY TO EXPOSE HIS VIEWS IN WASHINGTON AT HIGH LEVEL. ANY SUCH MEETING WOULD NOT HAVE TO BE IN CONTEXT OF OFFICIAL VISIT BY MERELY INFORMAL STOP AND MEETING.

3. WOULD APPRECIATE REPLY TO BE CONVEYED TO MINTOFF. GETZ

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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